

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A method of making a filter element comprising:
inserting an end portion of a filter into a liquid bonding material of an end cap at a bonding area between the end cap and the end portion of the filter;
inserting a narrow edge at an end portion of a core into the liquid bonding material, including separating some of the liquid bonding material from dividing the liquid bonding material and directing liquid bonding material away from the bonding area between the end cap and the end portion of the filter;
bonding the end portion of the filter to the end cap; and
supporting an inner periphery of the end portion of the filter by an outer wall of the core near the bond.
2. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the end portion of the filter and the end portion of the core are inserted into the liquid bonding material simultaneously.
3. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the end portion of the filter and the end portion of the core are inserted into the liquid bonding material at different times.
4. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein inserting the narrow edge of the core into the liquid bonding material and separating some of the liquid bonding material from the end portion of the filter includes directing liquid bonding material away from the end portion of the filter.
5. (Original) The method of claim 4 wherein directing liquid bonding material away from the end portion of the filter includes directing liquid bonding material into an annular recess in the end portion of the core, the method further comprising solidifying liquid bonding material in the recess.
6. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 4 further comprising venting gas in the recess through vents in the core.
7. (Original) The method of claim 1 further comprising solidifying bonding material in contact with or facing an interlock arrangement at the end portion of the core.

8. (Original) The method of claim 7 further comprising not fixing the core to the end cap and arranging the core to move with respect to the end cap.

9. (Original) The method of claim 8 wherein the core is arranged to move axially but not rotationally with respect to the end cap.

10. (Original) The method of claim 1 further comprising not fixing the core to the end cap.

11. (Original) The method of claim 1 further comprising fixing the core to the end cap.

12. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein supporting the inner periphery of the filter includes arranging the filter and the core such that the inner periphery at the end portion of the filter intimately faces the outer wall of the core.

13. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein supporting the inner periphery of the filter includes contacting the inner periphery at the end portion of the filter and the outer wall of the core.

14. (New) A method of making a filter element comprising:
inserting an end portion of a filter into a liquid bonding material of an end cap;
inserting a narrow edge at an end portion of a core into the liquid bonding material, including separating some of the liquid bonding material from the end portion of the filter;
bonding the end portion of the filter to the end cap and not fixing the core to the end cap; and
supporting an inner periphery of the end portion of the filter by an outer wall of the core near the bond.

15. (New) The method of claim 14 wherein the end portion of the filter and the end portion of the core are inserted into the liquid bonding material simultaneously.

16. (New) The method of claim 14 wherein the end portion of the filter and the end portion of the core are inserted into the liquid bonding material at different times.

17. (New) The method of claim 14 wherein not fixing the core to the end cap includes arranging the core to move with respect to the end cap after the liquid bonding material has solidified.

18. (New) The method of claim 17 wherein arranging the core to move includes arranging the core to move axially but not rotationally with respect to the end cap.

19. (New) A method of making a filter element comprising:

inserting an end portion of a filter into a liquid bonding material of an end cap;

inserting a narrow edge at an end portion of a core into the liquid bonding material, including inserting into the liquid bonding material an outer wall having an inner surface that tapers continuously in a straight or curved direction radially outwardly from a base to a first end of the outer wall to define the narrow edge at the end portion of the core; and

bonding the end portion of the filter to the end cap.

20. (New) The method of claim 19 wherein the end portion of the filter and the end portion of the core are inserted into the liquid bonding material simultaneously.

21. (New) The method of claim 19 wherein the end portion of the filter and the end portion of the core are inserted into the liquid bonding material at different times.

22. (New) The method of claim 19 wherein inserting the narrow edge of the core into the liquid bonding material includes directing liquid bonding material into an annular recess in the end portion of the core.

23. (New) The method of claim 19 further comprising bonding the end portion of the core to the end cap.

24. (New) The method of claim 19 further comprising not fixing the core to the end cap.

25. (New) The method of claim 19 further comprising supporting an inner periphery of the end portion of the filter by the outer wall of the core near the bond.

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.